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ARID LANDS.

BY CONGRESS!

Ex-Gov. McCord of Arizona Opposes Cession to the States and Territories -Predictions of the Bad Results of Such a Policy.

PHOENIX (Ariz.,) June 20, 1899 .- [To he Editor of The Los Angeles Times. lands should be given to the States and little difference of opinion among those who want to see them reclaimed settlement and occupation. Those nation, and with a sale of the lands the Cary act—which provides that the be returned to the national treasury. government shall cede 1,000,000 acres to each State, be extended so as to include the Territories-assert that it is useless to try to induce the government to inaugurate a national system of irrigation for the reclamation of these lands, and that to give the lands to the States and Territories is the only way they can be reclaimed in the near future. I will not go as far as the Los Angeles Times, and some national irrigation, and say that cession solved in favor of national irrigation, to the States and Territories is but a and against cession of the lands to process of reclaiming the lands through

land-grabbing scheme; but if we are the States and Territories. Even the to judge of the results of the operation recent congress at Wichita, while more of the laws providing for cession in the of a commercial gathering than any-States, and notably in the State of thing else, passed resolutions in favor Wyoming, where the author of the Cary of national irrigation, and refused to act lives, we must conclude that the pass a resolution in favor of cession. the operation of that law is an igno- lands to the States and Territories say the cession of these lands to the States the university grounds. The building minious failure. The law known as it is idle to think that Congress will in the Cary act has been a law now nearly this generation, or the next to come, five years, and less than 19,000 acres miopt a system of national irrigation. of the 1,000,000 acres ceded or provided Those who pretend to think so are and easy road that leads to destruction to be ceded to the State of Wyoming either ignorant of the sentiment prehave been reclaimed. And the great vailing in the country and Congress, or bulk of this has been reclaimed by they are not honest. For they should small farmers who have taken out a know that Congress, at its last assaion, lands, is about as reasonable as it larged to accommodate the increased little ditch here and there by which came very close to appropriating "\$300,they get a limited quantity of water 000 to begin work upon a system of on a 40 or 80-acre tract. It must be mational irrigation for the arid West,

the perfect development of our country tional system of irrigation for the arid should support a national system of lands. irrigation." That is the only way the If the government parts with its title vacant spaces in our national domain to the arid lands, and they are hawked can be rounded out and our country in every city in the land to find capital government take hold and carry out they will never be reclaimed, as they not feel the cost, even if it required\$100,- settlers; but if the government con-000,000 or\$200,000,000 the mighty south- tinues to own them the time will come west (which means Northern Texas, rado, Southern Arizona, Southern Utah | crowded cities, and will do it. Until and Southern California) which con- that time the people and Congress land would become a veritable para- give the lands to the States and Terridise. With a national system of irri- tories. The friends of a national sysgation, millions of people from the tem of irrigation ought to be, and no and plenty would reign, where now Angeles Times for its powerful aid in squalid poverty only is found; and opposition to giving the arid lands to

ment, with much greater assurance of reward then any scheme that ever challenged the eloquence of Henry Clay and his school of statesmen.

"The Governor of this Territory (Hughes) in his annual report recommends that the provisions of the Cary act be extended so as to apply to Ariclaimed by giving it away, and it could only be given away when an aggregation of capital could be induced it as they desired. Such a condition, publican. for obvious reasons, is to be avoided rather than sought. The government,

would result from carrying out the provisions of the Cary law.

"If the government parts with its WHAT SHALL BE DONE WITH THEM title to large quantities of the public domain in the arid belt, under the opcratians of the Cary law and kindred measures, it will prove a great drawback to the scheme for the accomplishing of which the entire West should bend every energy and use every honorable means, viz., national irrigation." Those were my views three and a

half years ago, and time has confirmed

me in the belief that they were then, the address above quoted from was delivered, in may report as Governor to the Secretary of the Interior, I advo- arid lands, with special reference to Territories is causing some discussion, pater a national system of irrigation, the contention of Gov. Murphy of though as a matter of fact there is saying, among other things: "The Arizona that these lands should be government could carry out such a ceded to the States and Territories, the work readily. The millions that would | Phoenix Republican takes up the cudin a way that will scoure their be needed could best come from the gels for Gov. Murphy and his plan, and who advocated that the terms of irrigated, the monoy that it coat could River soil at the Times. With a national system of irrigation perity, and the desert would be transformed into a veritable paradise."

opinious, but I am gratified to know that every irrigation congress that has

wident to any one who knows any- and that the leadage of all partie thing about irrigation that such little agreed with Senators Warren, Carter, patch work as that amounts to noth- Rawlings, Shoop and others that at Florence and Casa Grande ing toward reclaiming the great arid least that sum should be appropriated by the next Congress, if they would A national system of irrigation is no consent to let the matter go over. new theory with me. Three years ago There is little doubt but that the next last January, in some remarks I made | Congress will inaugurate the work of before the Agricultural Association building the Nigaragon Canal, which of Arizona upon the subject of "State- will be of vast benefit to the great THE ARIZONA NATIONAL BANK, to say: "Every man who believes in part as much benefit as would be a na

> made symmetrical. Should this great to reclaim them, as they would be, such a work, which it could do and should be, for the benefit of actual when it will see the wisdom of reclaim-Southern New Mexico, Southern Colo- ing them to make room for the overtains such vast areas of now useless should be warned against all efforts to East could find a home in which peace doubt are, very thankful to the Los this great southwest would be an em- the States and Territories. The Times pire of itself-a multiplied paradise." does not wear any corporation collar, "National irrigation of the arid lands and its columns are devoted to the insuggests a field for internal improve- terests of the people. Long live the MYRON H. McCord.

HORIZONTAL RAISE Readjustment of Arizona Postmasters'

Sainries. readjustment of presidential postmasters' salaries changes Bisbee, Ariz., zona. The Cary law gives each State from \$1,600 to \$1,700, Flagstaff \$1,500 in the arid region a million acres of to \$1,600, Globe \$1,800 to \$1,800, land, provided the State reclaims it. Jerome \$1,400 to \$1,600, Kingman \$1,200 great bodies, moves slowly, but we may While I have great respect for the opin- to \$1,400, Nogales \$1,400 to \$1,500, Phoeions of Gov. Hughes, yet upon this nix \$2,500 to \$2,600, Tueson \$2,300 to question I cannot agree with him. \$2,400, Williams \$1,100 to \$1,300; Win-Such legislation is not what we want. slow \$1,100 to \$1,300, Tempe \$1,200 The land would be utterly valueless to to \$1,100. Everett Palmer of Nogales us, because we could only get it re- has been appointed railway mail clerk.

Dr. G. A. Scroggs and wife and to undertake its reciamation as a gift. July on an outing in the White moun-If a corporation could be found that tains, going by way of Florence, Globe, would undertake its. reclamation on San Carlos to Fort Apache, where they those terms, and should succeed, they will remain a greater portion of the would own the lands, and of course time. The doctor expects to kill a have the right to fix such prices upon silver tip bear before he returns, -{Re- tion nearly five years, during which

Florence. - - Arizona. Florence - - Arizona, to the country than by the process that mediate vicinity.-[Oasis,

[From the Los Angeles Times.]

Referring to a recent editorial to the Times regarding the irrigation of the geis for Gov. Murphy and his plan, and incidentally flings a few clods of Salt is already giving these lands away

The Republican says that Gov. Murphy has done more for Arizona than millions of people from the congested any other man in the Territory; has centers of population would find homes | made a national reputation while inin the West. A more even balance | Congress, and is recognized as one of poverty would be replaced with pros- Granting that all this is true-and the Times has never intimated anything to the contrary-it does not by Now these are my own individual any means follow, as a logical sequence, that the views of Gov. Murphy in regard to the disposition of the arid other papers friendly to a system of met in the West or elawhere has re- lands belonging to the governmentars wise-or correct.

The Republican says there is no such a mistaken policy. present hope of getting Congress to rote money for the building of reservoirs, because residents of the agricul-Those who favor the giving of the should all join in the movement for cause the right road is a difficult one gation of more land in the fertile Sait | [Star. River Valley. Besides, the argument of the Republican is not wall founded. United States is a big question, involving the expenditure of a large amount of money. It always takes time to edant questions and to get Congress to good. The prisoner claimed that he hood and Irrigation," I took occasion West, but it will not be one-sixteenth work. For tan years or more the had a deposit in the bank on which the construction of a deep-water harbor at San Pedro, the introduction of the beet-sugar industry into Southern ing rock for the breakwater at San Pedro; there are three large beet-sugar his life. Exchange. factories south of the Tehachapi, and the entire country is aroused to the great national importance of the waterway through the isthmus, workupon which is certain to commence within a very short time. Yet, when these crusades were commenced a ma jority of the people regarded them'

It is the same with the great quesrealization of the great importance of class .- [San Francisco Chronicle. this question, thanks, mainly, to the indefatigable efforts of a few publicpriated at the next session. The Con- Rough Riders .- [Citizen. gress of the United States, like other be sure that the good seed which has

been sown will soon bear fruit.

In a communication published in the Times of Friday, ex-Gov. McCord of Arizona advanced a number of powerful arguments in favor of Federal irrigation of the arid lands, and against State cession. Mr. McCord Judge O. C. Smith will leave early in showed that, in Wyoming, where re sides the anthor of the Cary act, for the State, the reclaiming of public lands through that law has proved an ignominious failure. It has been in opera time less than 19,000 acres of the million acres ceded, or provided to be Parties coming in from Washington ceded to the State of Wyoming, have under the operation of the homestead Camp report great activity going on been reclaimed, most of this work and desert land laws, is now giving at that place. New mines are being having been done by small farmers these lands away for their reclamation discovered and considerable develop who have taken out a little ditch here and in a way much more advantageous ment work is going on in that im- and there. As Mr. McCord shows, if arid land were ceded to Arizona, i

Makes the food more delicious and wholesome

would be utterly valueless to the Ter-

ritory, because the Territory could

only get it reclaimed by giving it

away, and is could only be given away

when an aggregation of capital sould

be induced to undertake its reclama-

tion, in which case the capitalists

would own the lands and could fix:

such prices upon them as they desired.

The government, under the operation

The Arid Lands.

for their reclamation on a small scale. In conclusion, it should be remembered that every irrigation congress, including the recent congress at Wichita, has resolved in favor of national irrigation, and against cession of the would be given the nation. Squalid the strongest men of the country. lands to the States and Territories. This has been done, in spite of the strenuous efforts made by a small number of interested persons to swing. the conventions into an opposite channel. Should the efforts of these men prevail, which is not probable, Arizona would be one of the greatest sufferers, among the States and Territories, from

> The regents of the University have decided to make a substantial increase tural States east of the arid region are in dormitory accommodations for the next against further competition in the rais- school year. A new forty-room bricking of crops, and that, therefore, we dormitory for the use of the young men will be built on the south side of and Territories. The idea that be- will be in the form of a cross, two stories in height, with four ionle pillars: to travel, we should take to the broad gracing the front of the building, and decorated in harmony throughout. The is pusilianimous, and unworthy of present stone dormitory will be Americans. For eastern farmers to remodeled and be used by the young oppose the reclamation of western ladies. The dining room will be enwould be for California fruit-growers sitendance. Active operations will be to object to the caltivation of oranges begun at once and the matter will be in Florida, or for the owners of alfalfa | pushed with all vigor so as to be ready lands in this section to oppose the irri- for the opening of the new term.

They have a rather queer way of The irrigation of the arid lands of the administering justice in Cubs. Au-American has been in prison in Havans without a trial since last January on the charge of paying a jeweler for a ucate public opinion on these import- ring with a check which proved no the check was drawn, but surrendered the ring, and one day he had a hearing. The official told him that the jeweler had died meantime and was not, there-California, and the building of the Nic- fore, "in a position to withdraw the aragua Canal. Barges are now dump- the military authorities, the man omplaint." So, unless released by must remain a prisoner for the rest of-

The Lower California placer fields turn out to be worthless. There never was enough rain in the Peninsula to assure a very wide distribution of nuggets and gold dust from the decomposed quartz of the mountains; and the bulk of what precious metal there with indifference, if not with distrust. is reposes in the original rock. The time may come when Lower California tion of irrigating the arid lands; and will attract large capital to its quartz so making homes for millions of lodes, but there is small prospect that American citizens, at no ultimate cost it will ever earn the right to be called to the government. Congress is a poor man's country on any other slowly, but surely, coming around to a basis than the poverty of its working

Dave Hughes received from Washingspirited citizens of the great West, ton this week scertificate of merit from backed by several of the most influen- the government which entitles him to tial newspapers. At its last session \$2,00 per month during his natural life, Congress almost agreed to appropriate | This is a reward for services in the \$300,000 to begin work ugon a system field on Cuban seil. The autographs of national irrigation for the acid of President McRinley and Russell A. West, and leaders of all parties agree Aiger appear on the document, Of that at least so much should be appro- fifty volunteers, seventeen went to the

It is stated that if everybody who owe newspaper publishers would pay up what they owe, every publisher in the United Stater would be able to pay his debts and each would have a good surplus with which to improve his paper and increase its power in benefit-ing the community where published. Try it on us.—[Redlands Citrograph.

